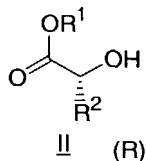


TITLE OF THE INVENTION

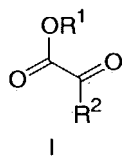
PROCESS FOR REDUCING AN ALPHA-KETO ESTER

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A process for preparing (R)-hydroxy ester (II)



from alpha-keto ester I



comprising adding the alpha-keto ester I to a mixture comprising the ketoreductase
 10 enzyme and non-ketoreductase enzyme components, wherein the ketoreductase
 enzyme has a molecular weight between 36000 and 38000, and wherein the
 ketoreductase enzyme has an N-terminal amino acid sequence selected from the
 group of sequences consisting of

15 Ala-Ile-Pro-Asp-Asn-Ala-Val-Leu-Glu-Gly-Ser-Leu-Val-Lys-Val-Thr-Gly-Ala-Asn-
 Gly (SEQ. ID NO. 1),

Met-Ala-Ile-Pro-Asp-Asn-Ala-Val-Leu-Glu-Gly-Ser-Leu-Val-Lys-Val-Thr-Gly-Ala-
 Asn-Gly (SEQ. ID NO. 4),

20

and

Met-Ala-Lys-Ile-Asp-Asn-Ala-Val-Leu-Pro-Glu-Gly-Ser-Leu-Val-Leu-Val-Thr-Gly-
 Ala-Asn-Gly (SEQ ID NO. 2).

25